

# Public Document Pack

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### Bridgend County Borough Council



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**Dyddiad/Date:** Friday, 9 July 2021

Dear Councillor,

### **SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2**

A meeting of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 will be held remotely - via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 15 July 2021 at 09:30**.

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence  
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest  
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008 (including whipping declarations)
3. Approval of Minutes 3 - 12  
To receive for approval the minutes of a meeting of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 of the 21 04 21
4. The Strategic Programme for People in Bridgend - Improving outcomes for the Joneses 13 - 24

#### Invitees

Claire Marchant - Corporate Director Social Services & Wellbeing  
Councillor Nicole Burnett - Cabinet Member for Social Services & Early Help  
Councillor Dhanisha Patel - Cabinet Member for Future Generations and Wellbeing  
Jackie Davies - Head of Adult Social Care  
Laura Kinsey - Head of Children's Social Care  
Andrew Thomas - Group Manager - Sports and Physical Activity  
Pete Tyson - Group Manager - Commissioning

5. Forward Work Programme Update 25 - 34
6. Urgent Items  
To consider any item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in

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accordance with Part 4 (paragraph 4) of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Note: Please note: Due to the current requirement for social distancing this meeting will not be held at its usual location. This will be a virtual meeting and Members and Officers will be attending remotely. The meeting will be recorded for subsequent transmission via the Council's internet site which will be available as soon as practicable after the meeting. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact [cabinet\\_committee@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk) or tel. 01656 643147 / 643148.

Yours faithfully

**K Watson**

Chief Officer, Legal, HR & Regulatory Services

Councillors:

S Aspey  
MC Clarke  
PA Davies  
SK Dendy  
J Gebbie  
M Jones

Councillors

MJ Kearn  
JE Lewis  
AA Pucella  
G Thomas  
SR Vidal  
KJ Watts

Councillors

CA Webster  
DBF White  
PJ White  
AJ Williams

# Agenda Item 3

SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2 - WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2021

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2  
HELD IN REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2021 AT 09:30

## Present

Councillor CA Green – Chairperson

MC Clarke  
JE Lewis  
DBF White

PA Davies  
AA Pucella  
PJ White

SK Dendy  
G Thomas

MJ Kearn  
CA Webster

## Apologies for Absence

J Gebbie, A Hussain, M Jones and T Thomas

## Officers:

Meryl Lawrence      Senior Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny  
Tracy Watson        Scrutiny Officer

## Invitees:

Councillor Nicole Burnett	Cabinet Member Social Services and Early Help
Jackie Davies	Head of Adult Social Care
Nicola Echanis	Head of Education & Family Support
Laura Kinsey	Head of Children's Social Care
Claire Marchant	Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Elizabeth Walton-James	Group Manager Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
Terri Warrilow	Adult Safeguarding & Quality Manager

## 131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr CA Webster declared a personal interest in item 4 because her son had had recently been referred to the Social Services transition service.

Cllr SK Dendy declared a personal interest in item 4 because she led one of the volunteer groups during the first lockdown and was now employed through Direct Payments to someone referred via social services.

## 132. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED:                      That the Minutes of a meeting of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 dated 14 December 2020 be approved as a true and accurate record.

## 133. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADULTS DURING COVID 19

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing introduced the report and explained that the presentation would be a group effort to enable the Committee to hear from those directly involved in providing safeguarding, during the last year.

The Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding, provided an overview of the safeguarding arrangements for adults and children during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Head of

Education and Family Support advised Members about the support available for vulnerable learners in partnership with colleagues in Safeguarding services. The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager explained about the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings and other meetings, along with support and communication for victims and how the service would look from the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

The Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTM UHB) talked about referrals and the activities undertaken to mitigate any risks in relation to those reductions in referrals in addition to recovery planning, and the Safeguarding.

The Secure Estates Manager gave an overview on Adult Safeguarding, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), the Secure Estate - Parc Prison and Residential and Nursing Homes. The Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding thanked colleagues and partners for their availability, flexibility and support over the past twelve months which had ultimately helped to keep children and adults safe.

Following the presentation of the report, Members of the Committee asked the following:

A Member appreciated the ongoing good progress being made with MASH and managing provision through this difficult time. They referred to point 4.7 DoLS and the Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager advising that the backlog of assessments had reduced from 152 to 122, and asked how the backlog was being cleared.

The Head of Adult Social Care advised that clearly in Adult Safeguarding, DoLS has been one of the priorities, but also one of the challenges in terms of the ability to carry out that function. The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager had explained what was being done and that this was something to continue monitoring. DoLS referrals fluctuated so where there were new referrals as care homes and nursing homes opened back up, an increase in the number of referrals received could be seen. The position was constantly being reviewed while looking at ways to increase the number of people that had the right skill base to carry out these assessments. It was hoped that the backlog would be cleared in the early part of the financial year, but because of the uncertainty of the situation, no definite date could be given at this stage.

The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager confirmed that there were a number of suitably qualified independent assessors coming on board that would assist in that process.

The Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help thanked Officers for their presentation and stated that she was proud of how safeguarding was at the forefront of everything being done. In terms of DOL's and nursing homes, it was good to see vaccinations taking place, but she could not stress enough how difficult the situation had been in nursing homes and how it was incredibly important that infection rates did not escalate again. People staying safe was priority.

The Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing explained that it was very difficult to talk about DoLS and best interest without reflecting on the care home situation. She highlighted that in the first wave, but particularly during the second wave, Bridgend had experienced very significant outbreaks of Covid-19 within care homes sector. Staff had worked with individual care homes, partners and district nursing staff, to ensure individuals had the right support along with the Health Board. Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) were part of the multi-agency meetings, alongside Public Health Wales (PHW) and colleagues from Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) Environmental Health, bringing together multi-agency safeguarding processes with outbreak management processes, which was quite innovative, but meant balancing

those risks between Public Health and Safeguarding. There had been discussions at the Regional Safeguarding Board around the learning and experience in terms of care homes, and this would continue to be embedded.

A Member referred to a radio discussion the day before regarding Covid-19 deaths in Wales, and a comment had been made that 25% were not actually related to Covid-19, and asked whether the figures could be provided.

The Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing advised that the colleagues in attendance were not best placed to answer the question and she would certainly take it away and try to direct it to the best and most appropriate professional to answer.

A Member asked the Acting VAWDASV Service Manager whether during the second lockdown, when non-essential items were not being sold, she had encountered any problems with getting clothing needed by families and if so, how this had been managed.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager explained that had she experienced those difficulties, she would approach CalanDVS who had clothing and toiletries which could be utilised to provide support. Alternatively she would have ordered online and collected the things a family needed.

The Member asked whether there was storage capacity within the Authority to enable the donation of clothes to continue.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager confirmed this was the case. When the Outreach Team came in-house on the 1<sup>st</sup> May, this would continue and be available for those families who needed them. She advised that mobile phones had also been purchased for families that needed safety devices. For families that were coming into the Authority that had children, these would be referred or linked in with children's services who had supplies as well that could help those families should they need clothes, food, etc.

The Member referred to the report mentioning exercise for prisoners was now opening up and wondered how open that was, if they were doing more exercise and also what work and educational opportunities there were.

The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager explained that Parc Prison was open inside the prison, but there was still currently a restriction on visitors. Within the prison activities had resumed including gardening, education and exercise. There were still some restrictions regarding inside activities, but certainly outside activities were resuming back to normal.

The Member referred to DNACPRs within care home settings for learning disabled and older residents and asked how many of these were implemented without the knowledge of the person during the first and second wave.

The Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding - CTM UHB explained that she did not have the answer for that, but assumed that GP's would be part of those discussions. She would take this back to the Health Board as her understanding, regardless of being in a pandemic, was that families would have been informed, even if that was over the telephone.

The Member said that this would be her understanding too and according to the General Medical Council (GMC) that was the process that would happen but there had been evidence, discussed in the media that these were put on without consultation to families

or individuals. It was not only elderly residents but people with learning disability as well. That had come from MENCAP. The Care Quality Commission in England had identified and investigated, but nothing had happened with the Welsh equivalent. It was important to know about how many residents in Bridgend had been affected, whether the DNACPRs had been removed and that lessons had been learned.

A Member asked how many care home residents were discharged from hospital in the first wave without being tested.

The Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding - CTM UHB said she did not have the data but was aware of some instances where this had happened, in the first wave, however things were much tighter following those instances. She would put it to Patient Care and Safety and the Director of Nursing and was pretty sure they could give provide an up to date answer with the work they had done.

The Head of Adult Social Care explained that she didn't have the figures, but brought the Committee up to date, with what was being done in terms of hospital discharge, explaining that the Local Authority were part of the Health Board's gold, silver and bronze command. Hospital discharge Guidance from Welsh Government (WG) was very clear, with several versions over the last twelve months. With every new version, a joint discharge protocol from the hospitals, was worked on, based on that guidance. In terms of numbers, colleagues from the Health Board would find those numbers, but the discharge protocol was managed together and it was the same for all the sites within the Health Board.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing explained that in relation to the care home position, following the first wave across Wales, a piece of work was commissioned by WG from Professor John Bolton to look at lessons that could be learned very quickly, it was called a rapid review and was undertaken in each Health Board Area. This was undertaken in CTM and then coming out of that there was an action plan, which looked at lessons very specifically to CTM, which continue to be taken forward in terms of immediate lessons around how to safely support people to be discharged from hospital. The rapid review recognised the need to learn lessons very quickly and implement them by the time of moving into the next wave of the pandemic. She was very happy to share that action plan with the committee if that would be helpful.

The Member asked how thorough and appropriate had the monitoring been in respect of existing at risk children in terms of identifying potential need, potential new cases or escalations in need. How does the Local Authority risk assess whether a child or family needs a virtual or face to face visit and how have potential new cases or cases that might be dropping through the net, been risk assessed. Finally, the Member asked how the Local Authority dealt with situations where families may avoid, either deliberately or for other reasons, being identified as requiring intervention, maybe through fear, or maybe that people thought their children would be taken away if they report that they have a need.

The Head of Children's Social Care reassured the committee that the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team and Children's Information, Advice and Assistance Team had continued to operate during the pandemic. Referrals had still been received and screening had taken place within 24 hours, as required, to continue to sustain that performance throughout. Joint screening with colleagues in Early Help and with other partners, had continued and responses to safeguarding concerns in line with the procedures. Strategy discussions and meetings were ongoing and joint enquiries had been undertaken with partners as well, although a smaller team was physically based in the normal accommodation. Visits to families continued to be undertaken where there were safeguarding concerns.

In terms of children that were already on the Child Protection Register, the frequency of face to face visits, was reduced, with in between visits done remotely in line with WG guidance at that stage of the pandemic. Face to face visits had gradually increased, reviewing operating protocols in line with alterations to restrictions and WG guidance. Most children on the register were now seen by social workers at home. If a child was not going to be visited at home a risk assessment was carried out to explain why that child shouldn't be visited at home with a Senior Manager having oversight of that, but that would rarely happen. Some remote visits were still being undertaken with children open on a care and support basis and some looked after children, but home visits were on the increase.

In reference to people in services like the Youth Offending Service, people delivering meals, health visitors etc., interventions were organised to ensure that people were seeing children face to face as regularly as was possible within the context of the restrictions.

The Cabinet Member Social Services and Early Help reassured Members and highlighted the example of the Local Authority's response to free school meals. The safeguarding aspect had been really essential, noting that figures for neglect were the most common form of abuse and for the Authority the prospect of any child going hungry through neglect was not to be risked. The safeguarding of vulnerable children was considered across all Directorates and as an authority there had been criticism for making decisions that ultimately had the safeguarding interests of vulnerable children, as a priority.

The Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding - CTM UHB understood the Member's concerns around virtual assessments. Education had increased for workers undertaking virtual health assessments including making sure they could see the child during that virtual assessment; that they were extra vigilant in picking up cues around people's behaviour and what they could see in the background. They sought opportunities for things like the routine enquiry, in particular around domestic violence and they sought opportunities to find safe ways of doing that either over the telephone or virtually. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) had brought children in face to face, if they had been concerned or picked up any cues, in order to see them on their own. She agreed that nothing would replace face to face, and that was the priority, but people had been innovative in trying to identify concerns in other ways.

The Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding reiterated her previous comments around the Bronze Groups and partners attending there, including Education and Probation, so if there were difficulties or barriers, referrals could be submitted into IAA services. In addition, if there was a need to escalate safeguarding concerns then Bronze would have taken that on board and addressed the issues to ensure that appropriate actions were taken.

The Member thank Officers for their responses and asked for a response in regard to his last point around parents who would fear accessing the service or deliberately not want to access the service.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager explained that there were victims that feared Children's Services, because of previous cases, comments from some members of the public and their own experiences, which did get exaggerated. Victims were reassured that Children's Services were there to support them, not take children away. She acknowledged that whilst it was not good to have repeat victims, data showed there were, which highlighted that victims would come back for support, regardless of whether they had children or not, should they need it.

The Head of Children's Social Care confirmed that in terms of self-referrals, those referrals from members of the public hadn't gone down compared to previous years, but in fact there had been a small increase every quarter. This offered some reassurance that parents were still contacting the Local Authority for advice, help and support if they were experiencing issues with their children.

The Cabinet Member for Social Services and Early Help reassured Members about reporting concerns, advising that the MASH, Child and Adult safeguarding numbers were on the BCBC website, and that she was happy to put in a referral on behalf of Members.

The Head of Education and Family Support explained that the whole ethos of the early help services was about trying to destigmatise the request for help, acknowledging that many families, needed some additional external help. She reminded Members of her earlier comment about identifying the most vulnerable children and young people that should access Hub Support and should be seen. When they were not coming in or not accessing that support, very quickly Education and Family Support were liaising with safeguarding colleagues, as to what level of concern there was because there would always be some parents who would not access the support they need. This had been a joined up approach, all the way through the pandemic, in identifying those most vulnerable and then following it up straight away if they didn't follow up on the support that they were offered.

The Member thanked everyone for very thorough answers. He highlighted the work of volunteers and points of learning and whilst not wanting to sound critical, felt that community pharmacists had been a little slow in responding to the pandemic and felt that in terms of the system, there needed to be thinking about how medication reached people, particularly those that might have difficulty getting to a pharmacy.

The Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing thanked the Member for his comments and took Members back to the start of the pandemic when many individuals were getting shielding letters for the first time, and the massive challenge to respond to support those individuals to get the absolutely vital support that they needed. Reflecting on figures that she had looked at in respect of work carried out with voluntary agencies, there had been 4444 people supported, out of which 2993 prescriptions had been delivered, in addition to all the checks that were made and supported around shopping, food security, befriending, shielding and keeping in touch. Picking up the point around community pharmacy this was something to take back and discuss with the Integrated Locality Group, in the Health Board. In common with other parts of primary care, community pharmacy were implementing their own business continuity set of arrangements, so they were adjusting how to respond. She thought that overall that response had been incredibly positive but there was an opportunity to reflect and move forward and look at the role that everybody needed to play in that joined up way.

A Member stated that the meeting had been very interesting and there had been very good answers which was very reassuring. She had a number of questions. In terms of risk assessments, (not DoLS) were these up to date and was there any waiting list. In terms of mobile phones given to victims, had there been any incidences where those phones have those been taken away or smashed, so the victim was not able to use them. What consideration was there for people who didn't have computers, how was information getting to them and how were they dealt with. By what percentage had admissions to A&E increased.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager explained that the Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) service was slightly different in terms of referrals. The referrals



were already risk identified, so everything received within IDVA service, was already high risk, therefore no assessments needed to be done, however a medium referral would go to Calan DVS who would carry out that risk assessment and decide whether or not they were high and then they would refer them into the Domestic Abuse Unit. She confirmed that there was no waiting list. An additional IDVA, had been employed because of the slight increase in cases during the pandemic. All the cases coming in were picked up and contacted within the day e.g. receive a referral by 10am, make contact with them by 4pm. If not contactable, they would continue trying until contacting them and they would be discussed the following day, in the daily discussion. If contact was not made within 48 hours then community police officers would knock the door and do a welfare check.

With regards to mobile phones, this had been really tricky during the pandemic and some had been taken off victims and destroyed. Other options had been examined, for example, the Police installing TecSOS alarms, similar to a panic alarm which alerted Police, or if able, just dialling 999 on the mobile. In addition, consideration would be given to when a perpetrator may attend an appointment, in order to contact the victim during those periods of time, but without putting the victim or family at further risk. It was a challenge, not even with Covid-19, phones were found and broken but during this time it had been quite challenging.

The Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing drew Members' attention to the performance statistics which were in the report at point 4.3 for the period up to the end of December 2020. There were statistics though to year-end which was showing, very largely that statutory timescales were being met. There was no waiting list for safeguarding, it was an immediate response. There was improved performance and timelines this year compared with performance last year, which was massive progress, given the challenges faced during the year.

The Interim Deputy Head of Safeguarding – CTM UHB, in response to the question on primary care and A & E, explained that she had statistics for children, noting that in December, January and February, in the peak of wave 2, there were around 468, 417 and then 350 attendances. Those had increased to 730 for March. What had been seen was a 60% reduction in A&E attendance, that was across all three LA areas, but that gradually increased then as people felt a little bit safer. She advised she would try to obtain the up to date statistics for Members.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager confirmed that in respect of computer access, there was funding to supply any service users that didn't have a tablet or computer, if it was safe for them to do so. For those that were not computer literate, there would be telephone conversations, with that service user, instead.

The Head of Children's Social Care reiterated that families not having equipment would not prevent them from being seen. In the majority of cases, the families had telephones, rather than tablets or computers, so most of contact would have been done, even video calls, via telephone. In addition arrangements had been made for practitioners to be able to use WhatsApp as well. If there was ever a family who didn't have equipment, a face to face visit would be held.

A Member stated that Scrutiny often asked for people's personal experiences and the Member felt it would be useful to share some of the things that she had come across during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown as a carer, while acknowledging things had got noticeably better over time.

The Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing thanked the Member for sharing her experiences; it was about learning and developing, not just looking at data and

statistics, but to hear what was really happening on the ground. She would welcome following up a conversation outside of the Scrutiny committee.

A Member referred to the domestic abuse change of service that the BCBC domestic abuse webpage did not have an escape button and asked whether there was plan to have one.

The Acting VAWDASV Service Manager explained that she would take this point back to Comms and to her Manager to look at the addition of this function.

A Member referring to the point around the prisons and said she was aware, through friends who worked in the prison system that some staff may have worked with Covid-19, although she noted this was not in Parc Prison. She also asked what mental health support and counselling was available for both staff and prisoners.

The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager advised that there were monthly safeguarding meetings in Parc Prison. For Parc Prison they had had contact though the pandemic via video links and their secure systems and she was not aware of any prison staff who had worked with Covid-19, and that was managed by the prison. Counselling services for prisoners had been looked at, noting the increase in mental health issues, particularly in the second lockdown. There had been 3 deaths in the prison in the pandemic. Health colleagues in the Prison had worked very hard and took precautions straight away, as per Public Health Wales and the Prison Guidelines and the lockdown in the Prison did reduce the amount of spread and cross infection in the prison. Mental health services were being explored with CTM to see if more counselling services in the prison could be offered to staff and prisoners.

The Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding LW-J reinforced what the Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager had said. Mechanisms were set up so both herself and the Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager could meet with the managers of both the general population part of Parc Prison and the Youth Offending Institute (YOI). The impact upon staff had been discussed, but neither managers had raised any significant safeguarding concerns in the meeting and there continued to be regular safeguarding meetings. Safeguarding activity had continued with those channels kept open for both areas of the prison to be able to communicate effectively with myself and the Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager outside of the standard meetings.

A Member asked whether the 3 people had died as a result of Covid-19 and with regard to mental wellbeing and the importance that G4S and the prison probation service put on family as part of the rehabilitation, was there a system in place in the prison as is in places outside, where children could have digital contact with their parents.

The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager explained that a number of devices had been brought at the beginning of Covid-19 via Amazon, so that prisoners and those in the Youth Justice Wing could keep in touch with their families. There were regular calls to families, so while visiting couldn't take place within the prison, the utmost was done to make sure those family links were maintained. The Safeguarding and Secure Estates Manager confirmed that the 3 deaths were related to Covid-19.

The Chairperson thanked all the invitees that had joined the meeting for their attendance and all their full responses which had been much appreciated.

The Invitees left the meeting.

Recommendations:

## SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2 - WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2021

Having considered the report on Safeguarding Children and Adults during Covid-19 and Invitees' responses to Members' questions, the Committee made the following comments and recommendations:

The Committee wanted to formally acknowledge the challenges and the huge efforts made by staff and the partnerships to continue with safeguarding and thanked all for their hard work throughout this difficult period.

The Committee requested the following:

1. That Quarter 4 Safeguarding data across the services be provided for circulation to Members of the Committee.
2. The Group Manager IAA and Safeguarding to provide a copy of the document compiled by the Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board.
3. That a question be directed to Public Health Wales or the Health Board in terms of the way deaths were recorded, having been made aware that 25% of Covid-19 deaths were not related to Covid-19 at all.
4. That the new VAWDASV service be added to the FWP for scrutiny.
5. That statistics be supplied in relation to how many DNACPRs were put on residents in care homes without family being made aware in both the first and second wave, whether they had since been removed and the lessons that had been learned.
6. That statistics be supplied as to how many care home residents were discharged from hospital in the first wave without being tested.
7. That a copy of the action plan, which came out of the commissioned WG piece on lessons learned, called a rapid review, be circulated to Members.
8. That discussions take place with the integrated locality groups in relation to the role of community pharmacists, particularly during the pandemic, in terms of how medication reaches people.
9. That statistics be supplied in relation to the increased numbers of people directly going to A&E, both for Adults and Children.
10. That consideration is given to an escape button on the Council's domestic abuse webpage.
11. That consideration is given to a counselling service within Parc Prison for both Staff and Prisoners as a result of deaths within the prison.

### 134. URGENT ITEMS

None

The meeting closed at 12:30

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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2

15 JULY 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

#### THE STRATEGIC PROGRAMME FOR PEOPLE IN BRIDGEND – IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR THE JONESES

### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Provide the Committee with an overview of the strategic programme to improve outcomes for people in Bridgend;
- Seek scrutiny, comment and challenge on the priorities set out within this report and supporting presentation. **(Appendix 1)**

### 2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

### 3. Background

#### Remodelling adult and children's social care

3.1 Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has made significant progress since the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 in 2016 to remodel its adult and children's social care services to provide more outcome focused, strength based models which are cost effective and prevent escalation of need. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Remodelling Adult Social Care Programme (RASC) and Remodelling Children's Social Care (RCSC) programmes provided strategic leadership at a programme level to progress developments in: early help and permanence, practice development, transition and remodelling provision for

children and young people; and, prevention and well-being, social care modelling, commissioning for outcomes and service delivery for adults.

3.2 Both the RASC and RCSC programmes provided effective governance to achieve considerable improvements, ensuring that Bridgend has been leading the way in developing preventative and strength based approaches, through effective partnership, practice and remodeling service provision, which together have meant that social care services in Bridgend are both effective and cost effective.

3.3 Key achievements in adult services have included:

- the integration of well-being and prevention for adults, working closely with third sector, leisure and cultural trust partners, to keep people well and connected in their own homes and communities;
- the integration of services with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (and prior to that the former Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board) to provide seamless, integrated community care and support at home for 'Mrs Jones' through a multi-disciplinary Community Resource Team and integrated health and social care teams in community networks;
- the implementation of 'strength based' practice which means social work in adult services focuses on understanding what matters to the person, working with individuals to maximise their independence and overcome barriers to remaining as independent as possible as long as possible;
- the remodelling of day opportunities for people with disabilities to enable people to be meaningfully occupied through supported employment schemes such as Wood B and B Leaf (operated by Awen) and community focused day opportunities;
- the development of accommodation care and support services which support people to remain living in their own homes and communities through high quality supported living services, new extra care schemes, and strong relationships with independent sector domiciliary care and care home providers, which have ensured a stable market and high standards of care.

3.4 Key achievements in children's services have included:

- the development of a progressive range of early help services through a 'one Council approach' between Education and Family Support and Social Services and Well-being, including integrated family support services, Baby in Mind (which won a Social Care Accolade in 2020) and early help teams, which have been successful in preventing escalation of need for children and families;
- the launch of an outcome focussed model of social work practice which aims to support children and young people to safely live with their own families as part of the Council's plans to safely reduce the number of care experienced children;
- the development of a child health and transition team to support more seamless transition between children and adult services;
- the remodelling of service provision including the development of a residential assessment service, which ensures that the long term accommodation care and support needs of children and young people are understood, out of area placements are reduced, and the development of the in-house fostering service.

- 3.5 In September 2020, Cabinet approved a 5 year plan for Social Services in Bridgend which set out the Council's intentions for service improvement for the services provided and commissioned by the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate. This plan had been in development prior to the Covid-19 global pandemic and was approved following the first wave. It sets clear priorities for the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate to progress, in partnership with other parts of the Council and other statutory and non statutory partners, in continuing to improve outcomes for people in the county borough.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 There is a clear set of priorities for improving outcomes for people and achieving sustainable social services in Bridgend contained within the 5 year plan. There is also considerable learning and emerging evidence of increasing needs for well-being support and care and support services arising from the impact of the pandemic on the citizens of Bridgend. The second wave of Covid-19 from December 2020 – February 2021 particularly affected vulnerable citizens in Bridgend. The importance and strength of partnerships that were focused on safeguarding, protecting and connection of the most vulnerable was highly evident. In supporting recovery from the pandemic, it is critical that effective multi-agency partnerships continue to meet needs, improve outcomes for people, and support achievement of sustainable social services against a backdrop of increasing need for services, challenges in recruitment and a range of competing demands.
- 4.2 The full impact of increased demands on social care and well-being post-Covid is still yet to be fully understood. It is forecast that the long-term impact of Covid (including needs arising from long-Covid) and the impact on physical and mental health of the extended periods of lockdown will be significant. These pressures are evident now, alongside the previously known pressures of an ageing population, increasing dementia rates, and more complex and challenging needs. The combination is increasing demands on already pressurised services operating in a highly competitive market for workforce, which means there is an urgent need to refresh the Council's strategic programme. There is a risk that there will be significant financial as well as service implications arising from people's needs in the post-Covid world. Planning and securing the right capacity and skill mix within the whole sector workforce to meet need, and prevent needs escalating, requires a timely and focused set of actions.
- 4.3 The need for a joined up approach to addressing the challenges facing our most vulnerable is clear, and as such it is proposed to develop a new Council wide programme 'Improving outcomes for the Joneses' to strategically drive the next phase of transformation and change needed to address service, workforce and financial pressures for the next 5 years. The programme will co-ordinate all the actions required to deliver with partners, as set out in the 5 year service strategy approved by Council. This programme will plan for, and address, the needs of people of all ages, rather than separate programmes for adults and children's, and bring partners across the Council and in partner organisations together to holistically address need and mitigate the risk of silo working.

4.4 Building on the success of designing integrated adult services around Mrs Jones, the proposed vision for social services and wellbeing is: 'Doing what matters for all the Joneses'. This vision is designed so it is inclusive across the life course and meaningful for everyone in the county borough.

The vision will be achieved through:

- Keeping people well, connected and addressing health inequalities;
- Organising our teams in community clusters which bring together well-being, primary and community health and social care for all population groups;
- Understanding and mitigating risks, and safeguarding people's safety independence and well-being.

4.5 The Improving Outcomes programme will be co-produced with and driven by the voices of the people who it impacts on: most notably people with well-being, care and support needs, and the social care workforce. Programme management methodology will be used to ensure there is a clear scope, timescales and milestones, business cases, and management of issues and risks. The programme structure is attached at **Appendix 1**. Governance between this transformation programme and the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board, the Bridgend Public Service Board and integrated working with Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board will be managed carefully to ensure that projects are aligned and the risk of duplication is reduced.

4.6 As set out in the programme structure, the priority projects of the programme are:

- Early intervention, prevention and well-being – this work will develop and implement strategies which keep people well and prevent escalation of needs. With specific attention on supporting children and young people to live safely with their families, the emotional health and well-being of adults and children, effective use of technology, supporting carers, and developing long term leisure and cultural strategies for the County Borough.
- Strength based practice – this work will focus on embedding strength based social work practice in adult and children's teams, ensuring that 'what matters' to the individual, and the outcome people want to achieve for their own lives – be it the home we wish to live in, the job or leisure interests we have, or the relationships that are important to us – are at the heart of practice, and care planning and is reflected in training, supervision and quality assurance and performance.
- Strategy, commissioning and service development – accommodation, care and support services enable people with care and support needs to live the lives they want to live. As practice becomes more outcome focussed, and most people want to live as independently as possible, there are a number of commissioning and service development priorities for the Council to progress as a provider and commissioner of services. The key priorities in the life time of the programme include: an accommodation, care and support strategy for older people, a market stability plan for care homes, the recommissioning of outcome focussed domiciliary care and supported living for adults, the remodelling of day opportunities and the continued remodelling of children's accommodation, care and support services.
- Underpinning the first 3 priorities is the need for a competent, confident, supported and motivated workforce across the whole of the social care and well-being sectors. The workforce priorities are: workforce well-being, retention and recruitment, workforce planning and review of skill mix, training



and development, succession planning and development of careers pathways for social care and social work. This is the most fundamental of all the projects as the right workforce is critical to delivering all other parts of the programme.

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1 There is no effect on policy framework and procedure rules.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening on the establishment of the programme has identified that the establishment of the programme does not itself have any negative implications. The aim of the programme is to improve outcomes for people protected characteristics. Individual proposals brought forward as the programme is developed will each have their own individual impact assessment. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on the proposals set out in this report.

## **7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications**

7.1 The strategic programme impacts on a number of areas of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act:

**Long Term** – the Improving Outcomes programme will support more person-centred and outcome-focused way of working, in keeping with the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, and more appropriate for the longer-term well-being of individuals and communities.

**Prevention** – The programme aims to support the development of preventative services which enable people to be as independent as possible and are targeted to prevent needs escalating.

**Integration** – Social Services and Wellbeing in Bridgend is committed to integrating services around the needs of individuals, breaking down silo working in the Council and with partners. The Improving Outcomes programme will bring together partners within the Council and across statutory and non statutory agencies to work together to deliver improved outcomes for people.

**Collaboration** – the service model set out in this paper predicated on close collaboration between people with care and support needs, workforce, service providers, social work teams, wider stakeholders and communities.

**Involvement** – Key stakeholders and providers will be involved in every aspect of the programme to help shape and inform the service proposal to ensure a co-productive approach to detailing the service model and specification for the new and revised service.

## **8. Financial implications**

8.1 There are no direct financial consequences from the establishment of this programme as it will be managed within the current Social Services and Wellbeing directorate resources. However, the challenging financial context for Social Services and Wellbeing in Bridgend, in Wales and across the UK should be noted. A key objective of this programme is to enhance prevention so that people's needs are met outside of social services, and care and support services are high quality, achieve clear outcomes and are as cost effective as possible. The Social Services and Wellbeing

directorate has made good progress in service and financial sustainability through the transformations achieved through the former remodeling programmes. Service and financial planning is increasingly challenging as there is an increased need and demand for social care arising from the impact of Covid and demographic trajectories. The end of short term funding sources, such as the Welsh Government Transformation Fund presents a significant financial challenge as does cost pressures associated with the recommissioning of high standard services and securing a quality services. The delivery of the priorities in this programme is essential to support financial sustainability.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 The Committee is requested to:

- Note the contents of this report and supporting presentation;
- Comment on the priorities for the strategic programme, “Improving Outcomes for the Joneses”.

**Claire Marchant**  
**Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing**  
June 2021

**Contact officers:** Laura Kinsey  
Head of Children’s Social Care

Jackie Davies  
Head of Adult Social Care

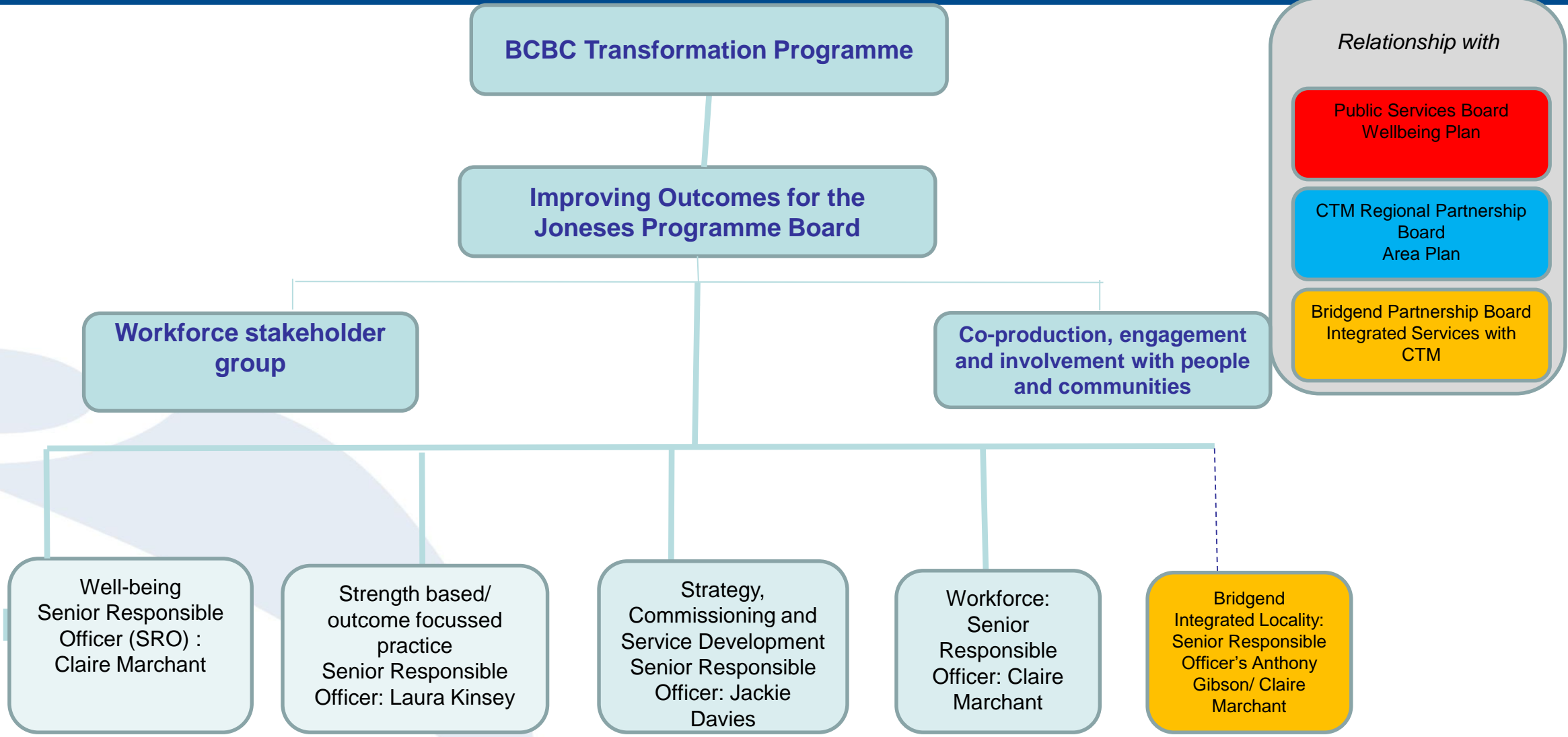
**Telephone:** (01656) 642314  
(01656) 642121

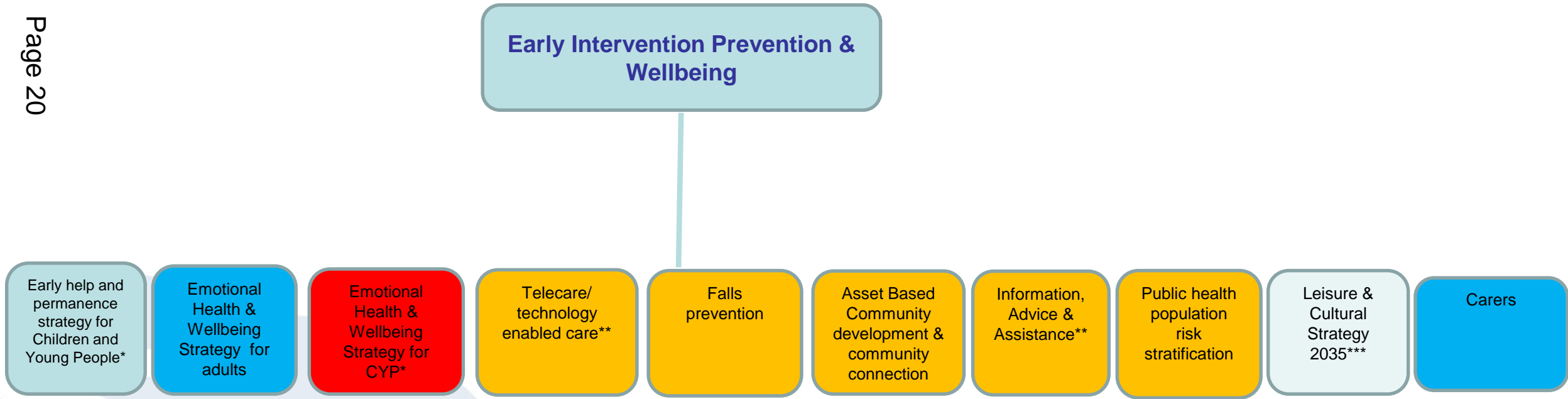
**Email:** [laura.kinsey@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:laura.kinsey@bridgend.gov.uk)  
[Jacqueline.davies@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.davies@bridgend.gov.uk)

**Postal address:** Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

**Background documents:**

None





\*Joint with education and family support

\*\* Interface with digital programme

\*\*\* Interface with 2030 strategy

# Strength Based Practice



Embedding strength based working (outcome model) in children's and adult services

Interactive practice guidance and toolkits

Adult social work model

Improving outcomes for care experienced children\*\*

Transition\*\*

Dementia

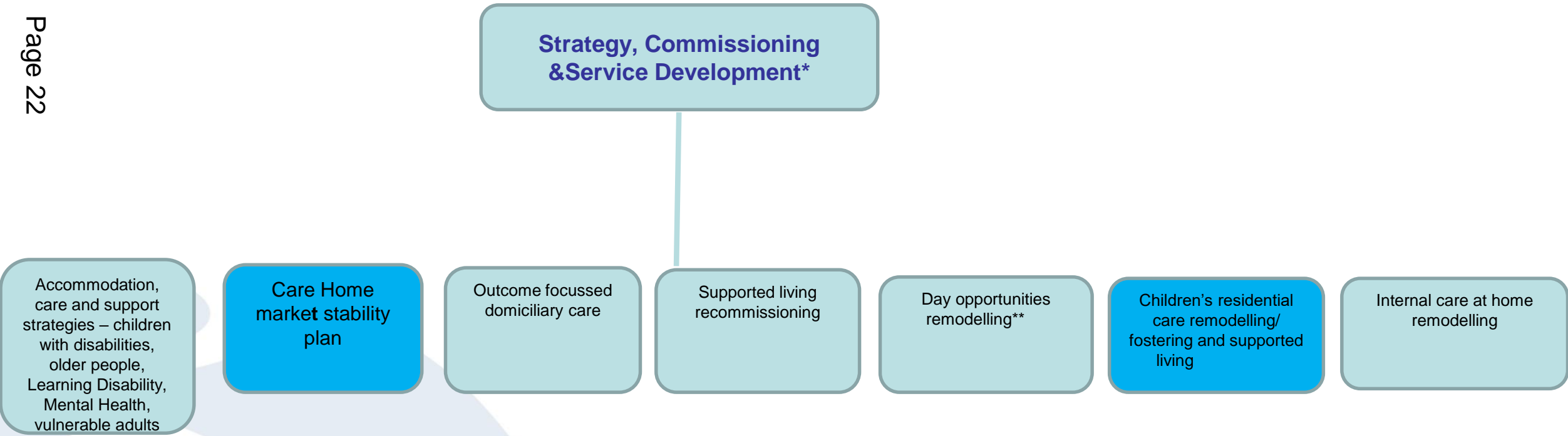
Safeguarding\*\*\*

\*Interface with Education and Family Support (EFS) who provide many of the services which are fundamental to the permanence plans

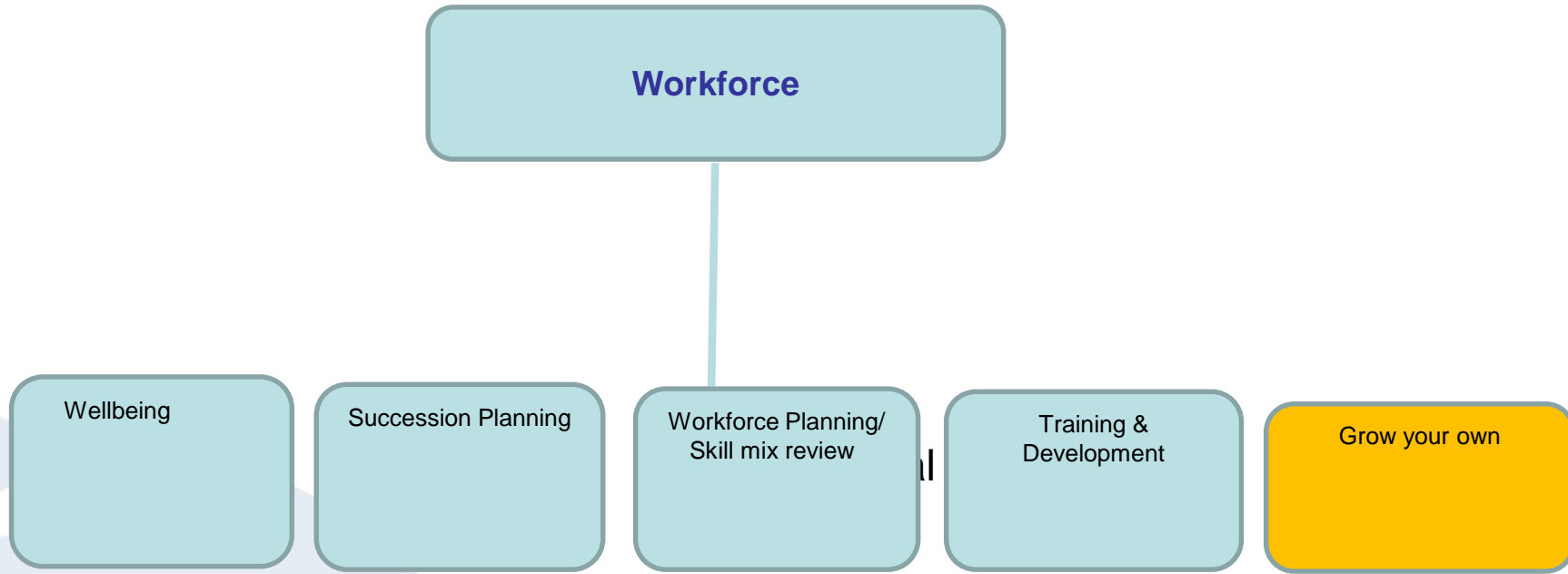
\*\*Interface with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) programme as well as joint priority with Cwm Taf Morgannwg Integrated Locality Group (ILG)

\*\*\*Interface with Regional Safeguarding Board (RSB)





- This project board requires senior membership from housing, legal, finance and procurement
- \*\* Interface with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and employability



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## BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2

15 JULY 2021

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER - LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES

##### FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

#### 1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) Present the Committee with the Forward Work Programme (**Appendix A**) for consideration and approval;
- b) Request any specific information the Committee identifies to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) Request the Committee to identify whether there are presently any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 4.3 of this report;
- d) Note that the Forward Work Programme and any feedback from the Committee will be reported to the next meeting of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (COSC).
- e) Present the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet (**Appendix B**) to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at the previous meetings.

#### 2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
- **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution requires the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to develop and implement a Forward Work Programme for the Committee.
- 3.2 The Council's Constitution also provides for each Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee to propose items for the Forward Work Programme having regard for the Council's Corporate Priorities and Risk Management framework, for the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to then prioritise and schedule.

#### Best Practice / Guidance

- 3.3 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's Good Scrutiny Guide recognises the importance of the forward work programme. In order to 'lead and own the process', it states that Councillors should have ownership of their Committee's work programme, and be involved in developing, monitoring and evaluating it. The Good Scrutiny Guide also states that, in order to make an impact, the scrutiny workload should be coordinated and integrated into corporate processes, to ensure that it contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.
- 3.4 Forward Work Programmes need to be manageable to maximise the effective use of the limited time and resources of Scrutiny Committees. It is not possible to include every topic proposed. Successful Scrutiny is about looking at the right topic in the right way and Members need to be selective, while also being able to demonstrate clear arguments for including or excluding topics.
- 3.5 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) guide to work effective work programming 'A Cunning Plan?' makes the following reference to the importance of good work programming:

*'Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well it can help lay the foundations for targeted, incisive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done badly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any work done is likely to be minimal.'*

#### Forward Work Programme

- 3.6 Following the approval of the schedule of Scrutiny Committee meeting dates at the Annual Meeting of Council on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the scheduling of standing statutory reports to Scrutiny Committees upon: the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Performance, the Corporate Plan, Budget Monitoring, etc. were mapped to the appropriate COSC meeting dates into a draft Forward Work Programme.
- 3.7 The draft Forward work programme for each Scrutiny Committee has been prepared using a number of difference sources, including:
- Corporate Risk Assessment;
  - Directorate Business Plans;
  - Previous Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme report topics / Minutes;

- Committee / Member proposed topics;
- Policy Framework;
- Cabinet Work Programme;
- Discussions with Corporate Directors;
- Performance Team regarding the timing of performance information.

3.8 There are items where there is a statutory duty for Policy Framework documents to be considered by Scrutiny, e.g. the MTFs including draft budget proposals scheduled for consideration in December 2021, following which the COSC will coordinate the conclusions and recommendations from each of the Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committees in a report on the overall strategic overview of Cabinet's draft Budget proposals to the meeting of Cabinet in February 2022.

3.9 An effective FWP identifies the issues that the Committee wishes to focus on during the year and provide a clear plan. However, at each meeting the Committee will have an opportunity to review this as the Forward Work Programme Update will be a standing item on the Agenda, detailing which items are scheduled for future meetings and be requested to clarify any information to be included in reports and the list of invitees. The FWP will remain flexible and will be revisited at each COSC meeting with updates from each SOSC FWP and any updated information gathered from FWP meetings with Scrutiny Chairs and Corporate Directors.

#### **4. Current situation/proposal**

4.1 The Committee approved its Forward Work Programme at its previous meeting.

4.2 The Committee's Forward Work Programme has also been reported to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee, for coordination and oversight of the overall FWP.

#### Identification of Further Items

4.3 The Committee are reminded of the Criteria Form which Members can use to propose further items for the FWP which the Committee can then consider for prioritisation at a future meeting. The Criteria Form emphasises the need to consider issues such as impact, risk, performance, budget and community perception when identifying topics for investigation and to ensure a strategic responsibility for Scrutiny and that its work benefits the Authority. There are a number of questions and processes that can help the Committee come to a decision on whether to include a referred topic, some of which are set out below:

#### Recommended Criteria for Selecting Scrutiny Topics:

**PUBLIC INTEREST:** The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;

**ABILITY TO CHANGE:** Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence, and which will result in a Cabinet decision being taken;

PERFORMANCE:	Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other agencies, are not performing well;
EXTENT:	Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the County Borough;
REPLICATION:	Work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort.

#### Reasons to Reject Scrutiny Topics:

- The issue is already being addressed / being examined elsewhere and change is imminent.
- The topic would be better addressed elsewhere (and can be referred there).
- Scrutiny involvement would have limited / no impact upon outcomes.
- The topic may be sub-judice or prejudicial to the Council's interest.
- The topic is too broad to make a review realistic.
- New legislation or guidance relating to the topic is expected within the next year.
- The topic area is currently subject to inspection or has recently undergone substantial change.

#### Corporate Parenting

- 4.4 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a Local Authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent', therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend.
- 4.5 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how each item they consider affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee assist in these areas.
- 4.6 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet-Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.
- 4.7 The Forward Work Programme for this Committee is attached as **Appendix A** for consideration.
- 4.8 The Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet for the previous meetings is attached as **Appendix B**, to track responses to the Committee's recommendations at the previous meetings.
- 5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**
- 5.1 The work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Council's Policy

Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

## **7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications**

7.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with 5 ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The following is a summary to show how the 5 ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been used to formulate the recommendations within this report:

- Long-term - The approval of this report will assist in the planning of Scrutiny business in both the short-term and in the long-term on its policies, budget and service delivery.
- Prevention - The early preparation of the Forward Work Programme allows for the advance planning of Scrutiny business where Members are provided an opportunity to influence and improve decisions before they are made by Cabinet.
- Integration - The report supports all the wellbeing objectives.
- Collaboration - Consultation on the content of the Forward Work Programme has taken place with the Corporate Management Board, Heads of Service, Elected Members and members of the public.
- Involvement - Advanced publication of the Forward Work Programme ensures that the public and stakeholders can view topics that will be discussed in Committee meetings and are provided with the opportunity to engage.

## **8. Financial implications**

8.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- a) Consider and approve the Forward Work Programme attached as **Appendix A**;
- b) Identify any specific information the Committee wishes to be included in the items for the next two meetings, including invitees they wish to attend;
- c) Identify any further items for consideration on the Forward Work Programme having regard to the selection criteria in paragraph 4.3 of this report;
- d) Note that the Forward Work Programme and any updates from the Committee will be reported to the next meeting of COSC;
- e) Note the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committee's recommendations made at the previous meetings as **Appendix B**.

Kelly Watson  
**CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR & REGULATORY SERVICES**  
9 July 2021

**Contact officer:** Meryl Lawrence  
Senior Democratic Services Officer - Scrutiny

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Civic Offices,  
Angel Street,  
Bridgend  
CF31 4WB

**Background documents:** None.

**Forward Work Programme  
Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2:**

**APPENDIX A**

<b><u>Date of Meeting:</u></b>	<b><u>Report Topics:</u></b>
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> June 9.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Domiciliary Care Inspection Report;</b></li> <li>- Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination report;</li> <li>- Nomination to the Public Service Board Scrutiny Panel report;</li> <li>- Draft Outline Forward Work Programme.</li> </ul>
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> July 9.30am	<b>Social Services and Wellbeing Strategic Programme</b> <i>(followed by Thematic reports one to each meeting via a rolling programme as below)</i>
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sep 9.30am	<b>First Theme – Wellbeing * (including Partnerships****)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commissioning care at home services</li> <li>- Early help and permanence strategy</li> </ul>
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov 9.30am	<b>Second Theme – People - voice and control** (including Partnerships****)</b>  <b>Workforce including Stress related sickness</b> – would like to include in this the SSWB workforce programme priorities of retention and recruitment, workforce planning (including reviews of skill mix) and career pathways and training and development  <b>Embedding strength based practice in adult and children’s services</b>
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am	<b>Medium Term Financial Strategy &amp; Budget Proposals</b>
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 9.30am	<b>Third theme – Prevention *** (including Partnerships****)</b>  Progress in delivering priorities for wellbeing, leisure and cultural services in Bridgend.
	<b>Mental Health Strategy</b>

An explanation of the themes in the Forward Work Programme is provided overleaf.

The statutory Director of Social Services Annual Report has been included in the Forward Work Programme for the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 2021.

The Annual Safeguarding Report and Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (WAWDASV) report has been included in the Forward Work Programme for the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Dec/Jan.

### Explanation of the Four Themes:

The four themes included in the draft Forward Work Programme above are the key principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, which also form the foundation of Care Inspectorate Wales' inspection and performance review activity, and are set out below for Members' information:

\* **Well-being** - To what extent are local authorities promoting well-being, ensuring people maintain their safety and achieve positive outcomes that matter to them? Including timely step down of children from local authority care, supporting older people to return home from hospital.

\*\***People - voice and control** - How well are local authorities ensuring people, carers and practitioners are having their voices heard, making informed choices, and maintaining control over their lives? How is this balanced with the recommendations and requirements made by Public Health Wales and Welsh Government? Can the local authority demonstrate learning is used to inform new ways of working?

\*\*\***Prevention** - To what extent are local authorities successful in promoting prevention and reducing need for increased or formal support from statutory agencies? Including taking all necessary steps to support the upbringing of the child by the child's family and supporting people with mental health issues before they reach crisis.

\*\*\*\***Partnerships** - To what extent are local authorities able to assure themselves the step change in opportunities for partnership working are positively exploited to maximise person-centred planning, ensure integrated service delivery and service sustainability. Opportunities include recent learning from digital advances, partnership working and ability of the health and social care system to advance at scale and pace and work towards a Healthier Wales.

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## Subject Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee 2

## RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome
21 April 2021	Safeguarding Children and Adults during Covid-19	The Committee concluded by making a number of recommendations.	Scrutiny / Corporate Director SS&W	<b>ACTIONED</b> – responses received circulated to Members. Remaining responses chased from Health Board.
17 June 2021	Forward Work Programme	The Committee requested further information in respect of the report in July.	Scrutiny	<b>ACTIONED</b> – Request emailed to Officers.
		The Committee requested an update on what was happening with them with regards to remote/home/face to face working for Members in the coming year	Scrutiny / Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services	Response awaited.
		The Committee requested an update on the requirements for Members to complete DSE's.	Scrutiny / Chief Officer - Legal, HR & Regulatory Services	<b>ACTIONED</b> – An email has been circulated to all Members with a link to the DSE e-learning module, assessment and guidance.
		The Committee requested consideration be given for Members to have the appropriate length of meetings/breaks.	Scrutiny / Chief Officer Legal, HR & Regulatory Services	Response awaited.

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